

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 TOKYO 13851 01 OF 02 160520Z

12

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2258

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 TOKYO 13851

FOR OES/OFA/MST, RUTH DEHAAN

E.O. 11652: N/A

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SUBJECT: NATIONAL MARINE SCIENCE POLICY OF JAPAN

REF: STATE 186529

1. JAPAN'S MARINE SCIENCE POLICY STATEMENT IS FOUND IN A REPORT OF THE COUNCIL FOR OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (COD) TITLED QTE BASIC CONCEPT AND POLICY FOR PROMOTION OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT UNQTE SUBMITTED TO THE PRIME MINISTER ON OCT. 17, 1973, IN RESPONSE TO LATTER'S REQUEST. THE STATEMENT, WHICH STILL REMAINS VALID, EMPHASIZES (1) SOLIDIFYING THE BASIS FOR PROMOTION OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT THROUGH FURTHER IMPROVEMENTS IN ORGANIZATION, PROGRAMS, LEGISLATION, LOGISTICS AND MANPOWER TRAINING; (2) DEVELOPING MARINE SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY; (3) PROMOTING MARINE ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION AND (4) INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION. IN DISCUSSING NEED FOR STRENGTHENING ORGANIZATION FOR PROMOTION OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, COD STRESSED NEED FOR CENTRAL GOVERNMENT TO PROVIDE ADEQUATE SUPPORT TO OCEANOGRAPHIC RESEARCH ACTIVITIES IN UNIVERSITIES AND TO TAKE POSITIVE PROMOTIONAL MEASURES IN THE INTEREST OF PRIVATE INDUSTRY TO HELP AUGMENT ITS TECHNOLOGICAL AND MANAGERIAL CAPABILITIES. THE NEED WAS ALSO STRESSED FOR COOPERATION AMONG GOVERNMENTAL, ACADEMIC AND INDUSTRIAL QUARTERS. THE COD STATEMENT STRESSED THAT

UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 02 TOKYO 13851 01 OF 02 160520Z

CLOSE COORDINATION AND COOPERATION SHOULD BE MAINTAINED IN

EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION, INTERCHANGE OF PERSONNEL AND JOINT UTILIZATION OF FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT.

2. COD URGED GOVERNMENT TO DEVELOP ARRANGEMENTS FOR JOINT RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT WITH THE UNIVERSITIES AND INDUSTRY. GOVERNMENTAL, ACADEMIC AND INDUSTRIAL COOPERATION BORE FRUIT IN OCT. 1971 WHEN JAPAN MARINE SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY CENTER (JAMSTEC) WAS ESTABLISHED. THE MISSION OF THIS ORGANIZATION IS TO RAISE THE LEVEL OF MARINE SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY BY (1) DEVELOPING PIONEERING AND BASIC TECHNOLOGIES REQUIRED FOR OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, (2) CONSTRUCTING MAINTAINING AND PROVIDING FOR JOINT USE LARGE-SCALE RESEARCH FACILITIES (3) TRAINING SCIENTISTS AND ENGINEERS, AND (4) COLLECTING, PROCESSING AND DISTRIBUTING INFORMATION. ADMINISTRATIVELY, JAMSTEC IS UNDER SUPERVISION OF THE GOVERNMENT AND FINANCIALLY IT IS RUN WITH FUNDS FURNISHED BY BOTH GOVERNMENT AND INDUSTRY. FOR JAPAN FISCAL YEAR 1975, JAMSTEC BUDGET TOTALLED APPROX. \$8.3 MILLION (GOV'T BUDGET FOR OCEAN DEVELOPMENT FOR FY 1976 TOTALLED ABOUT \$55 MILLION) AND ITS PERSONNEL NUMBERED 90.

3. COD IDENTIFIED THE FOLLOWING AS PRIORITY PROJECTS IN MARINE SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY: DEVELOPMENT OF MARINE LIVING RESOURCES (INCLUDING AQUACULTURE), DEVELOPMENT OF OFF-SHORE PETROLEUM, DEVELOPMENT OF MARINE STRUCTURE CONSTRUCTION TECHNOLOGY, MARINE ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION, DEEP SEA EXPLORATION AND UNDERWATER WORK SYSTEM AND RELATED EQUIPMENT. EXAMPLES OF TECHNOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENT THAT HAS TAKEN PLACE OR IS STILL GOING ON IN THESE AREAS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

A. DEEP SEA REMOTE CONTROL OIL DRILLING EQUIPMENT-- OBJECTIVES ARE TO DEVELOP UNDERSEA OIL FIELDS, WORKING FROM SEA-BED AT DEPTHS OF 200-250 METERS, DRILLING DEPTH TO BE 9,000 METERS MAXIMUM; EQUIPMENT SHOULD BE OPERABLE IN ALL WEATHER CONDITIONS AND COST SHOULD BE COMPETITIVE WITH VESSEL AND SEMI-SUBMERGED TYPE OIL RIGS. PRESENT SYSTEM SETS DRILLING SECTION ON SEA-BED AND POWER UNIT ON SEA SURFACE, AND DOES NOT NEED HUMAN ASSISTANCE SINCE OPERATION IS BY REMOTE AND AUTOMATIC CONTROL. RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ON THIS PROJECT WAS COMPLETED

UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 03 TOKYO 13851 01 OF 02 160520Z

LAST MARCH.

B. UNDERWATER HABITAT--BUILT BY JAMSTEC, THIS SYSTEM IS DESIGNED TO ACCOMMODATE FOUR AQUANAUTS IN SEA UP TO 100 METER DEPTH AND WAS BUILT FOR IN SITU STUDY OF DIVING PHYSIOLOGY AND PSYCHOLOGY, DIVING MEDICINE, AND UNDERWATER WORK CAPABILITY OF AQUANAUTS. ELECTRIC POWER, GAS AND WATER ARE SUPPLIED FROM SUPPORT BUOY (WHICH HAS ALSO BEEN

COMPLETED AT JAMSTEC) THROUGH UMBILICUS. THE HABITAT HAS BEEN USED FOR SEA BOTTOM HABITATION AT 30 AND 60 METER DEPTHS AS PART OF PROJECT SEATOPIA, THE JAPANESE MAN-IN-THE-SEA PROJECT. ALSO BUILT AT JAMSTEC IS AN UNDERSEA SIMULATION FACILITY DESIGNED TO CREATE IN LABORATORY A HIGH PRESSURE ENVIRONMENT EQUIVALENT TO PRESSURE OF SEA BOTTOM AT 500 METER DEPTH.

C. AQUACULTURE--AS A MEANS OF REPLENISHING NATURAL FISHERY RESOURCES, ACQUACULTURE HAS ALWAYS BEEN THE MOST IMPORTANT PROGRAM IN JAPAN, ALONG WITH DEVELOPMENT OF FISHING GROUNDS. OWING TO CONCERTED EFFORTS BY GOVERNMENT AND PRIVATE GROUPS, FISH FARMING HAS ALREADY REACHED SEMI-COMMERCIAL OR COMMERCIAL STAGE FOR MOST SPECIES OF FISH AND SHELLFISH. RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT IN FISH FARMING HAS CONCENTRATED ON PRODUCTION OF FRY, EXPANSION OF SPAWNING GROUNDS,AND IMPROVEMENT OF HAVITAT AND ENVIRONMENT. ALTHOUGH IT IS DIFFICULT TO TELL QUANTITATIVELY HOW MUCH FARMING TECHNIQUES HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO INCREASED FISH PRODUCTION, FOLLOWING IS A MEASURE OF SUCH CONTRIBUTION: SHALLOW WATER FARMING OF LAVER, OYSTERS, SCALLOPS AND YOUNG YELLOWATAIL INCREASED FROM 405,000 TONS IN 1966 TO 800,000 TONS IN 1973. EEL FARMING IN FRESH WATERS, WITH IMPORTATION OF FRY FROM EUROPE, AMOUNTED TO 15,191 TONS. PRODUCTION OF CARP AND TROUT MORE THAN DOUBLED, AND SINCE 1965, SWEETFISH FARMING DEVELOPED INTO PROFITABLE

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PAGE 01 TOKYO 13851 02 OF 02 160528Z

12

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R 160216Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2259

UNCLAS SECTION 2 OF 2 TOKYO 13851

ENTERPRISE AND PRODUCTION INCREASED BY ABOUT 60 PERCENT.
OCEAN PEARL CULTURE HAS BEEN ON DECREASE, BUT FRESH

WATER PEARL CULTURE HAS BEEN GROWING STEADILY, SHOWING A FACTOR OF 2.2 INCREASE SINCE 1966. FRESH WATER FISH FARMING INCREASED FROM 16,000 MILLION YEN VALUE IN 1966 TO 52,800 MILLION YEN IN 1973.

D. COASTAL ZONE--THE CONCEPT OF AN UNDERSEA PARK IS RECEIVING INCREASING ATTENTION. MORE THAN 20 COASTAL SPOTS HAVE BEEN DESIGNATED FOR UNDERSEA NATIONAL PARKS. TO OPEN UP RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES, FACILITIES SUCH AS UNDERSEA OBSERVATION TOWERS HAVE BEEN BUILT AT SEVERAL PLACES. A MAJOR PROJECT CALLING FOR CONSTRUCTION OF LARGE SUSPENSION BRIDGE OVER SETO INLAND SEA IS NOW BEING DEVELOPED. SINCE FOOTING OF THIS BRIDGE REQUIRES UNDERWATER CONSTRUCTION TECHNOLOGY ADAPTABLE TO DEPTHS OF OVER 50 METERS, R&D WORK ON UNDERWATER CONSTRUCTION TECHNOLOGY IS BEING VIROROUSLY DEVELOPED BY MINISTRIES OF CONSTRUCTION AND TRANSPORT.

4. COD STATEMENT HAS A SECTION DEVOTED TO TRAINING OF SCIENTISTS AND RESEARCHERS. BRIEFLY, THE FOLLOWING IS ITS RECOMMENDATION: AS FOR TRAINING OF RESEARCHERS AND SENIOR ENGINEERS UNIVERSITIES (INCLUDING GRADUATE SCHOOLS) AND NATIONAL TECHNICAL COLLEGES MUST TAKE RESPONSIBILITY. FOR THIS PURPOSE, THE GOVERNMENT MUST TAKE STEPS TO HELP INCREASE FACULTIES OR DEPARTMENTS OFFERING COURSES IN MARINE SCIENCE
UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 02 TOKYO 13851 02 OF 02 160528Z

AND TECHNOLOGY AND TO BUILD UP INTERDISCIPLINARY EDUCATION AND RESEARCH ORGANIZATION. AS FOR TRAINING OF JUNIOR ENGINEERS, HIGH SCHOOLS MUST BE GIVEN PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY. FOR THIS PURPOSE, THE GOVERNMENT SHOULD TAKE STEPS TO COMBINE LEARNING OF BASIC KNOWLEDGE AND TECHNOLOGY IN OCEAN DEVELOPMENT WITH FISHERIES AND OTHER RELATED SUBJECTS. TRAINING OF AQUANAUTS AND OTHER PROFESSIONALS REQUIRES SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS. SUCH INSTITUTIONS SHOULD ALSO ENGAGE IN TRAINING MANPOWER NEEDED IN PRIVATE INDUSTRY FOR DEVELOPING MARINE RESOURCES. THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION ANNUALLY APPROPRIATES FUNDS TO OPERATE 47 FACULTIES (25 OF WHICH ARE FOR FISHERIES TECHNOLOGY) WITH CLOSE TO 3,000 STUDENTS ENROLLED ANNUALLY, 7 RESEARCH INSTITUTES (THE BIGGEST ONE BEING TOKYO UNIVERSITY'S OCEAN RESEARCH INSTITUTE WITH 15 DEPARTMENTS), 6 RESEARCH FACILITIES, 18 COASTAL EXPERIMENT STATIONS AND 15 FISHERY EXPERIMENT STATIONS, AND 19 RESEARCH AND TRAINING VESSELS.

5. INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION IN MARINE DEVELOPMENT CURRENTLY CENTERS ON EXPLORATION OF MARINE ENVIRONMENT (GOOD EXAMPLE IS NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION'S INTERNATIONAL DEEP SEA DRILLING PROJECT TO WHICH JAPAN HAS AGREED TO CONTRIBUTE \$1 MILLION PER YEAR), MARINE TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT AND COMMERCIALIZATION OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (THROUGH PRIVATE COOPERATIVE ACTIVITIES) AND ADJUSTMENTS IN DEVELOPMENT AND UTILIZATION (THROUGH UN ACTIVITIES).

COD EMPHASIZED THAT JAPAN MUST GET PREPARED TO COOPERATE FULLY WITH OTHER COUNTRIES IN OCEAN DEVELOPMENT INCLUDING MARINE ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION. JAPAN AS WELL AS OTHER DEVELOPED COUNTRIES HAS BEEN FURNISHING FINANCIAL AND TECHNOLOGICAL AID TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. JAPANESE COOPERATION IN THIS REGARD COVERS EXTENDING CREDITS, RECEIVING TRAINEES, DISPATCHING SURVEY MISSIONS AND SPECIALISTS, AND PROVIDING EQUIPMENT, THESE UNDERTAKING ARE BEING CARRIED OUT THROUGH GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES, PRIVATE ENTERPRISES AND INTERNATIONAL AGENCIES. SHOESMITH

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